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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 57 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/62/422/Add.1)*]

62/203. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Brussels Declaration[1] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[2]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] in particular paragraph 15 thereof, in which the Heads of State and Government undertook to address the special needs of the least developed countries,

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[4]

Recalling also its resolutions 61/211 of 20 December 2006 and 61/1 of 19 September 2006,

Reaffirming its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2004 of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Resources mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010",[5]

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[1] A/CONF.191/13, chap. I.

[2] Ibid., chap. II.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] See resolution 60/1.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/59/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 49.

Taking note also of the Istanbul Declaration on the Least Developed Countries: Time for Action,[6] adopted at the Ministerial Conference of the Least Developed Countries held in Istanbul on 9 and 10 July 2007 on the theme "Making globalization work for the least developed countries",

Reaffirming that the Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for a strong global partnership, whose goal is to accelerate sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in the least developed countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010;[7]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the advocacy strategy on the effective and timely implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010;[8]

3. *Welcomes* the contributions made in the lead-up to the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[2] including the elaboration of the Cotonou Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010[9] as an initiative owned and led by the least developed countries;

4. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the Declaration[10] adopted by Heads of State and Government and heads of delegations participating in the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, in which they recommitted themselves to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries by making progress towards the goals of poverty eradication, peace and development;

5. *Remains concerned* about the insufficient and uneven progress achieved in the implementation of the Programme of Action, and stresses the need to address, within the time frame set by the Programme of Action, areas of weakness in its implementation and the continued precarious socio-economic situation in some least developed countries through a strong commitment to the objectives, goals and targets of the Programme of Action;

6. *Welcomes* the continued economic progress of many least developed countries, which has led to the fact that a number of countries are proceeding towards graduation from the list of least developed countries;

7. *Stresses* that the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, can be effectively achieved in the least developed countries through, in particular, the timely fulfilment of the seven commitments of the Programme of Action;

8. *Reaffirms* that progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action will require effective implementation of national policies and priorities for

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[6] A/62/216, annex.

[7] A/62/79-E/2007/63 and Corr.1.

[8] A/62/322.

[9] A/61/117, annex I.

[10] See resolution 61/1.

the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of the least developed countries, as well as strong and committed partnership between those countries and their development partners;

9. *Underlines* the fact that, for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, the least developed countries and their development partners must be guided by an integrated approach, a broader genuine partnership, country ownership, market considerations and results-oriented actions encompassing:

(*a*) Fostering a people-centred policy framework;

(*b*) Ensuring good governance at both the national and international levels as essential for the implementation of the commitments embodied in the Programme of Action;

(*c*) Building human and institutional capacities;

(*d*) Building productive capacities to make globalization work for the least developed countries;

(*e*) Enhancing the role of trade in development;

(*f*) Reducing vulnerability and protecting the environment;

(*g*) Mobilizing financial resources;

10. *Urges* the least developed countries to strengthen the implementation of the Programme of Action through their respective national development framework, including, where they exist, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

11. *Urges* development partners to fully implement, in a timely manner, commitments in the Programme of Action and to exercise individual best efforts to continue to increase their financial and technical support for its implementation;

12. *Also urges* development partners to continue to support the efforts of countries graduating from the list of least developed countries in order to better promote their further integration into the world economy, to sustain their development process and to avoid any disruption therein, including within the framework of the smooth transition strategy;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations Resident Coordinator system, the Bretton Woods institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors and other development partners to assist the least developed countries in translating goals and targets of the Programme of Action into concrete actions in the light of their national development priorities;

14. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations that have not yet done so to mainstream the implementation of the Brussels Declaration[1] and the Programme of Action within their programmes of work as well as in their intergovernmental processes and to undertake within their respective mandates multi-year programming of actions in favour of the least developed countries;

15. *Stresses*, within the context of the annual global reviews, as envisaged in the Programme of Action, the need to assess the implementation of the Programme of Action sector by sector, and in this regard invites the United Nations system and all relevant international organizations, consistent with their respective mandates, to report on the progress made in its implementation using quantifiable criteria and indicators to be measured against the goals and targets of the Programme of Action

and to participate fully in reviews of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

16. *Also stresses* the crucial importance of integrated and coordinated follow-up, monitoring and reporting for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

17. *Requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General to ensure, at the Secretariat level, the full mobilization and coordination of all parts of the United Nations system to facilitate coordinated implementation as well as coherence in the follow-up to and monitoring and review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, including through such coordination mechanisms as the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the United Nations Development Group, the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs and the Inter-agency Expert Group on the Millennium Development Goals Indicators;

18. *Reiterates its invitation* to the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and other relevant multilateral organizations, to provide full support to and cooperate with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States;

19. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to include the least developed countries in all relevant reports in the economic, social and related fields in order to ensure the follow-up of their development in the broader context of the world economy and contribute to preventing their further marginalization;

20. *Expresses its concern* about the insufficiency of resources in the trust fund established for the participation of the least developed countries in the annual review of the implementation of the Programme of Action by the Economic and Social Council;

21. *Reiterates* the critical importance of the participation of Government representatives from the least developed countries in the annual review of the Programme of Action by the Economic and Social Council, expresses, in this regard, its deep appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established for this purpose by the Secretary-General, invites donor countries to continue to support the participation of two representatives from each least developed country in the annual review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, including by contributing in an adequate and timely manner to the special trust fund, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources in order to ensure that the trust fund is adequately resourced;

22. *Recalls* paragraph 114 of the Programme of Action on holding a fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries towards the end of the current decade, requests the Secretary-General, in this regard, to prepare a note during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly outlining the modalities of such a conference, including its preparatory process, and also, in this regard, invites Member States to consider hosting that conference;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures for the implementation of the advocacy strategy,[8] in coordination with all relevant stakeholders;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit an annual analytical and results-oriented progress report on the further implementation of the Programme of

Action and to make available adequate resources, within existing resources, for the preparation of such a report.

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[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/62/422/Add.2)*]

62/204. Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/201 of 23 December 2003, 60/208 of 22 December 2005 and 61/212 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Recalling further the Asunción Platform for the Doha Development Round,[3]

Taking note of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration adopted at the Meeting of Trade Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Ulaanbaatar on 28 and 29 August 2007,[4]

Recalling resolution 63/5 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific of 23 May 2007,[5]

Recalling also the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the 2007 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, adopted on 10 July 2007,[6]

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] A/60/308, annex.

[4] A/C.2/62/9, annex.

[5] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 19* (E/2007/39), chap. IV, sect. A.

[6] A/62/3 and Corr.1, chap. III, sect. C, para. 90. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 3*.

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks continue to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socio-economic development,

Recognizing also that cooperation between transit countries and landlocked developing countries results in better transit transport systems,

Expressing support to those landlocked developing countries that are emerging from conflict, with a view to enabling them to rehabilitate and reconstruct, as appropriate, political, social and economic infrastructure and assisting them in achieving their development priorities, in accordance with the goals and targets of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[7]

Recalling the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[8] an initiative for accelerating regional economic cooperation and development, as many landlocked and transit developing countries are located in Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of preparations for the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action;[9]

2. *Also takes note* of the outcome documents of the Thematic Meeting on Transit Transport Infrastructure Development, held in Ouagadougou from 18 to 20 June 2007,[10] and of the Thematic Meeting on International Trade and Trade Facilitation, held in Ulaanbaatar on 30 and 31 August 2007;[11]

3. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law;

4. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe their legitimate interests;

5. *Encourages* donors and multilateral and regional financial and development institutions, in particular the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate technical and financial assistance in the form of grants or concessionary loans for the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries[7] in particular for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved

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[7] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

[8] A/57/304, annex.

[9] A/62/226.

[10] A/62/256 and Corr.1, annexes I and II.

[11] A/C.2/62/4, annexes I and II.

communications, to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes, and to also provide technical assistance in trade facilitation;

6. *Emphasizes* that the development and improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor countries should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

7. *Recalls* that landlocked and transit developing countries have the primary responsibility for implementing the Almaty Programme of Action, as envisaged in its paragraphs 38 and 38 bis;

8. *Emphasizes* that South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation with the involvement of donors should be strengthened, as well as cooperation among subregional and regional organizations;

9. *Decides* to hold, from within existing resources, two days of high-level plenary meetings devoted to the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action during the sixty-third session of the General Assembly in New York, on 2 and 3 October 2008, to be chaired by the President of the Assembly;

10. *Stresses* that the midterm review should provide the international community with an opportunity to make the assessment of the progress made, lessons learned and constraints encountered in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and agree on what needs to be done to further galvanize global partnerships to assist landlocked developing countries in strengthening their effective participation in international trade and the world economy;

11. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene consultations during the sixty-second session of the Assembly to facilitate the preparation of an outcome for the midterm review and to finalize its organizational aspects, if necessary;

12. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in close consultation with the relevant United Nations system organizations, to prepare a draft outline of the outcome document of the midterm review so as to facilitate the intergovernmental consultations, taking into account the outcomes of the thematic meetings, the regional meetings and the reports of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

13. *Also requests* the Office of the High Representative, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001 and in the Almaty Programme of Action, to coordinate the preparatory process, further requests that United Nations system organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme and the regional commissions, and relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, provide necessary support and substantive inputs to the review process, and in this regard takes note of the organizational framework for the midterm review prepared by the Office of the High Representative in cooperation with the main stakeholders;

14. *Encourages* donors and the international financial and development institutions as well as private entities to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General to support the activities related to the

follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the progress made, lessons learned and constraints encountered in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, including recommendations, with a view to the preparation for the midterm review meeting and the way forward;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation".

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62/205. Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, 56/207 of 21 December 2001, 57/265 and 57/266 of 20 December 2002, 58/222 of 23 December 2003, 59/247 of 22 December 2004, 60/209 of 22 December 2005 and 61/213 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[1] and their commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling also its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling further the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development[3] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[4]

Expressing concern that, after the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), and midway to the 2015 Millennium Development Goals target date, while there has been progress in reducing poverty in some regions, this progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase, with women and children

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[4] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

constituting the majority of the most affected groups, especially in the least developed countries and in particular in sub-Saharan Africa,

Encouraged by reductions in poverty in some countries in the recent past, and determined to reinforce and extend this trend to benefit people worldwide,

Recognizing that mobilizing financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Acknowledging that sustained economic growth, supported by rising productivity and a favourable environment, including private investment and entrepreneurship, is necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and realize a rise in living standards,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006);[5]

2. *Recognizes* that during the implementation of the first Decade the international community adopted, inter alia, the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] which are mechanisms to focus national, regional and international efforts towards achieving poverty eradication;

3. *Proclaims* the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Reiterates* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries;

5. *Urges* all Governments, the international community, including the United Nations system, and all other actors to continue to pursue seriously the objective of the eradication of poverty;

6. *Reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizes that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

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[5] A/62/267.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

7. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development, critical for the eradication of poverty;

8. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring, at the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities for the eradication of poverty in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

9. *Calls upon* donor countries to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty in their assistance programmes and budgets, on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis;

10. *Recognizes* that sustained economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment;

11. *Also recognizes* that, for developing countries to reach the targets set in the context of national development strategies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the goal on the eradication of poverty, and for such poverty eradication strategies to be effective, it is imperative that developing countries be integrated into the world economy and share equitably in the benefits of globalization;

12. *Further recognizes* the importance of official development assistance as a source of financing development for developing countries, calls for the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2015, and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report containing recommendations on how to make the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) effective, in support of the poverty eradication-related internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session an item entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)".

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62/206. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999, 56/188 of 21 December 2001, 58/206 of 23 December 2003, 59/248 of 22 December 2004 and 60/210 of 22 December 2005 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including the Declaration adopted at its forty-ninth session,[1]

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration[2] and Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4] and recalling the outcomes of all other relevant major United Nations conferences and summits,

Reaffirming also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] which affirms that the equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured, and calls for, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as being effective and essential to eradicating poverty and hunger, in combating diseases and in stimulating development that is truly sustainable,

Taking note with appreciation of the discussion on women in development in the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session, and recalling its agreed conclusions on "Enhanced participation of women in development: an enabling environment for achieving gender equality and the advancement of women, taking into account, inter alia, the fields of education, health and work",[6]

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[5] See resolution 55/2.

[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 7* and corrigenda (E/2006/27 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. I, sect. D.

Recognizing that access to basic affordable health care, preventive health information and the highest standard of health, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, is critical to women's economic advancement, that lack of economic empowerment and independence increases women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, including the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, and that the neglect of the full enjoyment of human rights by women severely limits their opportunities in public and private life, including the opportunity for education and economic and political empowerment,

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming also the significant contribution that women make to the economy, that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty,

Noting that gender biases in labour markets and women's lack of control over their own labour and earned income are also major factors in women's vulnerability to poverty, and, together with women's disproportionate responsibilities for domestic work, result in a lack of economic autonomy and influence in economic decision-making within households and in society at all levels,

Recognizing that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology, and employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing also, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and civil, political and fundamental freedoms for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Reaffirming the need to eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education by the earliest possible date and at all levels by 2015, and reaffirming that equal access to education and training at all levels, in particular in business, trade, administration, information and communications technologies and other new technologies and the need to eliminate gender inequalities at all levels are essential for gender equality, the empowerment of women and poverty eradication and to allow women's full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development,

Recognizing that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing also that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development,

Aware that, while globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have also made some women, especially in developing countries and in particular in the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility, including in the agricultural sector, and that special support, particularly for women who are small-scale farmers, and empowerment are necessary to enable them to take advantage of the opportunities of agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of those societies, including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Expressing its concern that, while women represent an important and growing proportion of business owners, their contribution to economic and social development is constrained by, inter alia, the denial and lack of equal rights and lack of access of women to education, training, information, support services and credit facilities, salaries, and control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production,

Also expressing its concern about the underrepresentation of women in political and economic decision-making, and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of all policies and programmes,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, and the specialized agencies in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[7]

2. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration[2] and Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[4]

3. *Recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and poverty eradication, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with civil society, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues;

4. *Stresses* the importance of creating a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life for the effective integration of women in development;

5. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and the United Nations system to accelerate further efforts to increase the number of women in decision-making and to build their capacity as agents of change, and to empower women to participate actively and effectively in the development, implementation and evaluation of national development and/or poverty eradication policies, strategies and programmes, including, where appropriate, programme-based approaches;

[7] A/62/187.

6. *Urges* Member States to incorporate a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, into the design, implementation, monitoring and reporting of national development strategies, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts to develop methodologies and tools and to promote capacity-building and evaluation;

7. *Encourages* Member States to ensure inclusive and more effective participation of national mechanisms for gender equality and women's empowerment in formulating national development strategies, including poverty eradication strategies, and calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts in this regard;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to increase women's representation and participation in government decision-making at all levels in development policy areas to ensure that the priorities, needs and contributions of women are taken into consideration by, inter alia, providing access to training; developing measures to reconcile family and professional responsibilities; and eliminating gender stereotyping in appointments and promotions;

9. *Recognizes* that violence against women and girls is one of the obstacles to the achievement of the objectives of equality, development and peace and the implications of violence against women and girls for the social and economic development of communities and States, and calls upon States to elaborate and implement plans of action to eliminate violence against women and girls;

10. *Also recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders to assist and support developing countries' efforts in integrating a gender perspective into all aspects of policymaking, including through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

11. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities that will generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

12. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypical attitudes to gender equality at work and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;

13. *Urges* all Member States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, giving special attention to poor, uneducated women, and to support women's access to legal assistance; and to encourage the financial sector to mainstream gender perspectives in their policies and programmes;

14. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, notes in this regard the importance of sound national financial systems, and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

15. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and their equal access to all levels of education;

16. *Urges* Member States to encourage women entrepreneurs, including through education and training of women in business, administration and information and communications technologies, and invites business associations to assist national efforts in this regard;

17. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, inter alia, through legislation and family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments, the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers and the provision of the necessary care for working women's children and other dependants and to consider promoting policies and programmes, as appropriate, to enable men and women to reconcile their work, social and family responsibilities;

18. *Urges* Member States to design and revise laws that ensure that women are accorded full and equal rights to own land, housing and other property, including through inheritance, and to undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital and appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

19. *Recognizes* the need to empower women economically and politically, particularly poor women, and in this regard encourages Governments, with the support of their development partners, to invest in appropriate infrastructure and other projects, as well as to create opportunities for economic empowerment, in order to alleviate for women and girls the burden of time-consuming everyday tasks;

20. *Expresses its concern* at the overall expansion and feminization of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and that women and girls bear a disproportionate share of the burden imposed by the HIV/AIDS crisis, that they are more easily infected, that they play a key role in care and that they have become more vulnerable to violence, stigma and discrimination, poverty, and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of the HIV/AIDS crisis, and calls upon Governments and the international community to intensify efforts towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010;

21. *Reaffirms* the commitment to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development,[8] integrating this goal into strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] aimed at reducing maternal mortality, improving maternal health, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS and eradicating poverty;

22. *Recognizes* that a substantial increase in official development assistance and other resources will be required if developing countries are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, and that, in order to build support for official development assistance, cooperation will be needed in further improving policies and development strategies, both nationally and internationally, to enhance aid effectiveness;

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[8] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

23. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the necessary financial resources to assist national Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

24. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

25. *Stresses* the importance of collecting and exchanging all relevant information needed on the role of women in development, including data on international migration, as well as the need to develop statistics disaggregated by age and sex, and in that regard encourages developed countries and relevant entities of the United Nations to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems;

26. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this field in accordance with the national development strategies;

27. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;[9]

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including on integrating a gender perspective into national development strategies;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

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[9] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* and addendum (A/52/3/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 March 2008

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 58 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/62/423/Add.3)*]

62/207. Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003 and 60/211 of 22 December 2005,

Recalling also the World Summit on the Information Society,

Stressing that science and technology plays a critical role in facilitating human resources development, which can enhance opportunities for social and economic development,

Stressing also that human resources development is key to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population,

Acknowledging the urgent need to bridge the technological gap and to assist developing countries to access the potential benefits of science and technology for human resources development,

Recognizing that globalization, connectivity and interdependence have accelerated the pace of technological innovation, which enhances the benefits for countries that develop the skills and knowledge needed to acquire, adapt and diffuse technological innovations,

Recognizing also that developing countries often have limited capacity to acquire, adapt and diffuse technological knowledge and innovation, and emphasizing the importance, where appropriate, of financial and technical assistance and resources from the international community and, as relevant, the fostering of international partnerships to enhance private sector technology transfers,

Stressing the importance of facilitating increased, cost-effective and equitable access to technological knowledge and learning, including through open trade and investment frameworks,

Emphasizing that education in science and technology is fundamental for technological knowledge and innovation, recognizing the benefits to all countries of

making this an educational priority, and noting the constraints faced by some developing countries in this regard,

Recognizing the importance of science and technology in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Stressing the importance of the effective use of science and technology in promoting human resources development in the context of national strategies focused on technological knowledge and learning, assisted by an enabling domestic and international environment,

Stressing also that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and the need for greater support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

Stressing further that health and education are at the core of human resources development and the need to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and will have equal access to all levels of education,

Noting the impact of the movement of highly skilled people and those with an advanced education on human resources development and sustainable development in developing countries, and stressing the need for a global and comprehensive approach to maximize the positive impact of skilled labour mobility on human resources development,

Stressing that, while the private sector plays an important role in the diffusion of applied science and technology, Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing a national strategy to promote technological knowledge and learning, with the support of the international community,

Emphasizing the continuing need for coordination and collaboration among the organizations of the United Nations system, within their mandates, in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in fostering their human resources development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Encourages* Member States to make technological knowledge and learning a priority of their human resources development strategies at all levels of education, including formal and informal learning, emphasizes the importance of the capacity of educators in the technology learning process, and encourages the international community to continue to facilitate, in view of the difference in level of development between countries, an adequate diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and transfer of, access to and acquisition of technology for developing countries, under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms, in a manner conducive to human resources development;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of human resources development in promoting sustainable development, and encourages Governments to integrate human resources development policies into their national development strategies;

4. *Calls for* steps to integrate gender perspectives into human resources development, including through policies, strategies and targeted actions aimed at

[1] A/62/308

promoting women's capacities and access to productive activities, and in this regard emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of such policies, strategies and actions;

5. *Urges* the adoption of cross-sectoral approaches to human resources development, which combine, among other factors, economic growth, poverty eradication, the provision of basic social services, sustainable livelihoods, the empowerment of women, the involvement of young people, the needs of vulnerable groups of society and of local indigenous communities, political freedom, popular participation and respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity in order to meet the challenge of development;

6. *Calls upon* the international community, including the entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address the adverse effects of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases on their human resources;

7. *Encourages* Member States to build information and communications technologies capacity to promote equitable access to and use of information and communications technologies in order to improve professional competencies and technical skills and to create an enabling environment for lifelong learning, and reiterates the crucial role of the international community in fulfilling its commitments in this regard;

8. *Also encourages* Member States to expand technical, vocational, craft and utilitarian science education to all sectors of society, especially to women and disadvantaged groups, and to promote their empowerment through the use of information and communications technologies to facilitate more equitable access to training and education on science and technology;

9. *Stresses* that investment in human resources development should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies, and in this regard calls for the adoption of policies to facilitate investment focused on infrastructure and capacity development, including, inter alia, education, health and science and technology, including information and communications technologies;

10. *Also stresses* the importance of investments in research and development in all countries, particularly in developing countries, to develop a technological base and create knowledge and innovation relevant to local needs, encourages Governments in this regard, where appropriate, to adopt trade, investment and regulatory regimes that promote private-public investment in research and development, and invites the provision of technical and financial assistance by the international community, including through collaborative research;

11. *Further stresses* the need to establish strong links between relevant stakeholders in education and industry so as to ensure that educational curricula and programmes meet national science and technological needs, and strongly encourages international support for science and technological education, including higher education in developing countries;

12. *Stresses* the importance of technical and vocational training in increasing technological learning and innovation and for promoting entrepreneurship for technological development;

13. *Encourages* partnerships with subregional, regional and international networks and research facilities and other relevant institutions, public and private, to

optimize research efforts, facilitate cost-sharing and achieve mutual gains, and requests the United Nations system to assist in this regard;

14. *Calls upon* the relevant entities of the United Nations system to give priority to the objectives of human resources development through, inter alia, integrating into their development programmes explicit support for building science and technology capacities compatible with local needs, resources, culture and practices;

15. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations system, including through public-private partnerships, to continue to support the efforts of developing countries in formulating human resources development strategies that promote technological capability;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of human resources development strategies, in particular on lessons learned and the role of the international community and other entities, including the private sector, in assisting these efforts;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

78th plenary meeting
19 December 2007

General Assembly

Distr.: General
14 March 2008

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 59 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/62/424/Add.2)*]

62/208. Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/211 of 22 December 1989, 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 52/203 of 18 December 1997, 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 53/192 of 15 December 1998, 56/201 of 21 December 2001 and 59/250 of 22 December 2004, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2005/7 of 20 July 2005 and 2006/14 of 26 July 2006 and other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming the importance of the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming also the need to strengthen the United Nations with a view to enhancing its authority and efficiency, as well as its capacity to address effectively, and in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the full range of development challenges of our time,

Recalling the commitment of Member States to enhance the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and credibility of the United Nations system as a shared goal and interest,

Recalling also the need to provide the United Nations system with adequate and timely resources with a view to enabling it to carry out its mandates,

Reaffirming the need to ensure, in a coherent and timely manner, the full implementation of all the elements of its resolutions 44/211, 47/199, 50/120, 53/192, 56/201 and 59/250, and the parts of its resolution 52/12 B, relevant to operational activities for development, which should be considered as an integral part of the present resolution,

Recalling the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with the present resolution and General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 and 61/16 of 20 November 2006,

Recalling also the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, such as the United Nations

Millennium Declaration of 2000,[1] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development of 2002,[2] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation") of 2002,[3] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[4] and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

Recognizing the vital role played by these conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives, which have contributed to our understanding of and actions to overcome the challenges to improving human life in different parts of the world,

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Recognizing that the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, offer a framework for planning, reviewing and assessing the activities of the United Nations for development,

Recognizing also that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, and reaffirming that development is a central goal in itself and that it constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of the United Nations operational activities for development,

Recognizing further that the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, can positively contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and encouraging their further contribution in supporting national development efforts in accordance with national plans and priorities,

Recognizing that new technologies, including information and communications technologies, present an opportunity to accelerate development, especially in developing countries, and noting that access to those technologies remains uneven and that a digital divide still prevails,

Reiterating the importance of the development of national capacities to eradicate poverty and pursue sustained and equitable economic growth and sustainable development as a central goal of the development cooperation of the United Nations system,

Recognizing that current trends in development assistance, including sector-wide approaches and budget support, pose challenges to the United Nations, and stressing that the United Nations can play a role in assisting developing countries to manage these aid modalities,

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] See resolution 60/1.

Recognizing also the urgent and specific needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States,

Recognizing further the special needs of Africa,

I

Introduction

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system[5] and on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;[6]

2. *Notes* the advances that the United Nations development system is making in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/250, and calls upon the United Nations system to accelerate its full implementation, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development;

4. *Underscores* that there is no "one size fits all" approach to development and that development assistance by the United Nations development system should be able to respond to the varying development needs of programme countries and should be in alignment with their national development plans and strategies in accordance with its mandates;

5. *Recognizes* that the strength of the United Nations operational system lies in its legitimacy, at the country level, as a neutral, objective and trusted partner for both programme countries and donor countries;

6. *Stresses* that national Governments have the primary responsibility for their countries' development and for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to effectively integrate such assistance into their development processes;

7. *Emphasizes* that the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be valued and assessed on the basis of their impact on the programme countries as contributions to enhance their capacity to pursue poverty eradication, sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

8. *Decides* that, with the agreement and consent of the host country, the United Nations development system should assist national Governments in creating an enabling environment in which the links and cooperation between national Governments, the United Nations development system, civil society, national non-governmental organizations and the private sector that are involved in the

[5] A/62/73-E/2007/52 and A/62/253.

[6] A/62/74-E/2007/54 and A/62/326.

development process are strengthened, including, as appropriate, during the United Nations Development Assistance Framework preparation process, with a view to seeking new and innovative solutions to development problems in accordance with national policies and priorities;

9. *Stresses* that the purpose of reform is to make the United Nations development system more efficient and effective in its support to developing countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, on the basis of their national development strategies, and stresses also that reform efforts should enhance organizational efficiency and achieve concrete development results;

10. *Requests* the United Nations development system to continue its efforts to respond to national development plans, policies and priorities, which constitute the only viable frame of reference for programming operational activities at the country level, and to pursue full integration of operational activities for development at the country level with national planning and programming, under the leadership of national Governments, at all stages of the process, while ensuring the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders at the national level;

11. *Recognizes* that strengthening the role and capacity of the United Nations development system to assist countries in achieving their development goals requires continuing improvement in its effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and impact, along with a significant increase in resources and an expansion of its resource base on a continuous, more predictable and assured basis;

12. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the United Nations Development Group, as appropriate, to make efforts to enhance the coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations development system;

13. *Recognizes* that the individual United Nations funds, programmes and agencies have specific experience and expertise, derived from, and in line with, their mandates and strategic plans, and stresses, in this regard, that improvement of coordination and coherence at the country level should be undertaken in a manner that recognizes the respective mandates and roles and enhances the effective utilization of resources and the unique expertise of all United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

14. *Urges* all Member States to pursue full implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizes the positive contribution that these goals can make in providing direction to the operational activities for development of the United Nations system in accordance with national development efforts and priorities;

15. *Recognizes* that the transition from relief to development represents a complex challenge as regards the universal achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

16. *Also recognizes* the importance of consistent, reliable and comprehensive statistical data and analysis about the United Nations operational activities in order to provide an understanding of evolutions and trends contributing to sound policy decisions;

II

Funding for operational activities of the United Nations development system

17. *Acknowledges* efforts by developed countries to increase resources for development, including commitments by some developed countries to increase official development assistance, notes with concern the overall decline in official development assistance in 2006, calls for the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance by 2015 and to reach at least 0.5 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance by 2010, as well as the target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent for least developed countries, and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

18. *Stresses* that core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and in this regard notes with concern that the share of core contributions to United Nations funds and programmes has declined in recent years, and recognizes the need for organizations to address, on a continuous basis, the imbalance between core and non-core resources;

19. *Urges* donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to substantially increase their voluntary contributions to the core/regular budgets of the United Nations development system, in particular its funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and to contribute on a multi-year basis, in a sustained and predictable manner;

20. *Notes* that non-core resources represent an important supplement to the regular resource base of the United Nations development system to support operational activities for development, thus contributing to an increase in total resources, while recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources and that unearmarked contributions are vital for the coherence and harmonization of the operational activities for development;

21. *Also notes*, in this regard, that the increased use of restrictively earmarked non-core resources reduces the influence of the governing bodies and can lead to the fragmentation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and can thus constrain their effectiveness;

22. *Recognizes* the establishment of thematic trust funds, multi-donor trust funds and other voluntary non-earmarked funding mechanisms linked to organization-specific funding frameworks and strategies established by the respective governing bodies as funding modalities complementary to regular budgets;

23. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes, and urges the specialized agencies to avoid using core/regular resources to cover costs related to the management of extrabudgetary funds and their programme activities;

24. *Stresses* that the mobilization and management of extrabudgetary resources should not adversely impact the quality of the delivery of the programme of work of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system;

25. *Notes with concern* that, based on assessed contributions, the regular budgets of many specialized agencies have been stagnating, and invites countries to

consider increasing their contributions to the budgets of the specialized agencies in order to enable the United Nations development system to respond in a more comprehensive and effective manner to the demands of the United Nations development agenda;

26. *Recognizes* the urgent and specific needs of low-income countries, in particular the least developed countries, and stresses the need to continue to assist those countries, including through the existing institutions and funding mechanisms of the United Nations development system;

27. *Also recognizes* that middle-income developing countries still face significant challenges in the area of poverty eradication and that efforts to address those challenges should be supported in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, including through support to the effective development of comprehensive cooperation policies;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General, making use of existing capacities within the Secretariat and, if necessary, voluntary contributions:

(*a*) To continue to broaden and improve the coverage, timeliness, reliability, quality and comparability of system-wide financial data, definitions and classifications for the financial reporting of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in a coherent way;

(*b*) To build a comprehensive, sustainable and consistent financial data and reporting system for the operational activities for development of all the relevant organizations and entities of the United Nations system;

(*c*) To include, in this regard, in the report to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council in 2008 a concise assessment of progress made and a description of planned activities;

(*d*) To invite Member States to contribute to the support of the work mentioned above;

29. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to undertake, in full consultation with Member States, measures:

(*a*) To promote an adequate and expanding base of development assistance from the United Nations system, taking into account, inter alia, the development priorities of programme countries;

(*b*) To promote the continuation of the upward trend in real contributions to operational activities for development to identify obstacles to the achievement of that goal and to make appropriate recommendations in this regard;

(*c*) To promote the predictability and the multi-year pledging of funding for operational activities for development;

(*d*) To promote an appropriate balance between core and non-core contributions;

30. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report, pursuant to paragraph 29 above, to the sixty-third session of the General Assembly;

31. *Calls upon* developed countries to ensure that information on their efforts to increase the volume of official development assistance is made available to the relevant United Nations intergovernmental bodies;

32. *Emphasizes* that increasing financial contributions to the United Nations development system is key to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard recognizes the mutually reinforcing links between increased effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the United Nations development system, achieving concrete results in assisting developing countries to eradicate poverty and achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development through operational activities for development and the overall resourcing of the United Nations development system;

33. *Stresses* the importance for the United Nations development system to improve strategic planning, while noting that results-based management, accountability and transparency of the United Nations development system are an integral part of sound management;

34. *Emphasizes* that funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system should focus on long-term development challenges based on national development strategies;

III

Contribution of United Nations operational activities to national capacity development and development effectiveness

A. Capacity-building and development

35. *Recognizes* that capacity development and ownership of national development strategies are essential for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and calls upon United Nations organizations to provide further support to the efforts of developing countries to establish and/or maintain effective national institutions and to support the implementation and, as necessary, the devising of national strategies for capacity-building;

36. *Stresses* that capacity development is a core function of the United Nations development system, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to take measures to ensure a coherent and coordinated approach by the United Nations development system in its support to capacity development efforts of programme countries;

37. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to further support capacity-building and capacity development of developing countries, upon their request, to effectively coordinate and evaluate the impact of external development assistance in line with national development plans and priorities;

38. *Requests* the United Nations development system to support the development of specific frameworks aimed at enabling programme countries, upon their request, to design, monitor and evaluate results in the development of their capacities to achieve national development goals and strategies;

39. *Calls upon* United Nations organizations to adopt measures that ensure sustainability in capacity-building activities, and reiterates that the United Nations development system should use, to the fullest extent possible, national execution and available national expertise and technologies as the norm in the implementation of operational activities by focusing on national structures and avoiding, wherever possible, the practice of establishing parallel implementation units outside of national and local institutions;

40. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to continue to strengthen national execution bearing in mind the importance of building national capacity, simplifying procedures and aligning them with national procedures;

41. *Requests* the United Nations development system to strengthen its procurement systems, guided by best practices, and to progressively rely on national systems for procurement;

42. *Also requests* the United Nations development system, in consultation with Member States, to create and report on a specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound results framework to measure capacity-building initiatives and activities of the United Nations development system in developing countries;

43. *Encourages* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system to intensify collaboration at the country and regional levels to achieve more effective use of their expertise, resources and actions towards strengthening national capacities, in accordance with national priorities and development plans, including through the common country assessment, when required, and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

44. *Welcomes* efforts and initiatives to enhance the quality of aid and to increase its impact, including the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and calls for concrete, effective and timely action in implementing all agreed commitments on aid effectiveness, with clear monitoring and deadlines;

45. *Stresses* that programme countries, in order to meet the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,[1] should have access to new and emerging technologies, which requires technology transfer, technical cooperation and the building and nurturing of scientific and technological capacity to participate in the development and adaptation of these technologies to local conditions, and in this regard urges Member States and the United Nations system to support the promotion and transfer of new and emerging technologies to programme countries;

46. *Requests* the United Nations development system to strengthen its role in facilitating access of developing countries to new and emerging technologies;

47. *Urges* all organizations of the United Nations development system to intensify inter-agency sharing of information at the system-wide level on good practices and experiences gained, results achieved, benchmarks and indicators and monitoring and evaluation criteria concerning their capacity-building and capacity development activities;

B. South-South cooperation and development of national capacities

48. *Reaffirms* the increased importance of South-South cooperation, and in this regard encourages the funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system involved to mainstream support to South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation to help developing countries, at their request and with their ownership and leadership, to develop capacities to maximize the benefits and impact of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in order to achieve their national goals, with special emphasis on internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

49. *Calls upon* donors and Member States in a position to do so to strengthen their support for South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation,

especially by mobilizing financial resources on a sustainable basis and by providing technical assistance;

50. *Invites* all Member States and the United Nations development system to actively participate in the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation;

51. *Requests* the United Nations development system to intensify its information-sharing and reporting on support to and results achieved through South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation;

52. *Stresses* that further efforts are required to better understand the approaches and the potential of South-South cooperation to enhance development effectiveness, including through national capacity development;

53. *Also stresses* the importance of strengthening the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation within the United Nations Development Programme, and calls upon the United Nations development system to provide the Special Unit with further support to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

54. *Welcomes* the fact that the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation continues to facilitate the wide diffusion of and access to information relating to experiences, best practices and potential partners in South-South cooperation on the Web of Information for Development, its electronic databank;

55. *Invites* Member States and the United Nations development system to celebrate the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation in an appropriate manner;

C. Gender equality and women's empowerment

56. *Reiterates its call upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality and the empowerment of women in their country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this field in accordance with national development strategies;

57. *Encourages* the governing bodies of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to ensure that gender perspectives are integrated into all aspects of their monitoring functions in relation to policies and strategies, medium-term plans, multi-year funding frameworks and operational activities, including those relating to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields;

58. *Takes note* of the adoption by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination of the United Nations system-wide policy on gender equality and the empowerment of women and strategy on gender mainstreaming,[7] and the efforts made by the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality;

59. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to consider the role of men and boys in gender mainstreaming policies;

60. *Requests* the United Nations development system to further enhance the effectiveness of gender specialist resources, gender focal points and gender theme

[7] CEB/2006/2 and Corr.1, annex.

groups, inter alia, by establishing clear mandates, ensuring adequate training, access to information and to adequate and stable resources and by increasing the support and participation of senior staff;

61. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to further improve their institutional accountability mechanisms and to include intergovernmentally agreed gender equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks;

62. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to further improve qualitative and quantitative reporting on gender equality, including gender disaggregated data;

63. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the annual report of resident coordinators includes adequate and concise information on progress on the above;

64. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to avail itself of the technical experience of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on gender issues;

65. *Urges* the organizations of the United Nations development system, in accordance with their respective mandates, to take a coherent and coordinated approach in their work on gender-related issues and to share good practices, tools and methodologies through appropriate means;

66. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system to continue efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments within the United Nations system at the central, regional and country levels for positions that affect operational activities for development, including appointments of resident coordinators and other high-level posts, with due regard to representation of women from programme countries, in particular developing countries, and keeping in mind the principle of equitable geographic representation;

D. Transition from relief to development

67. *Stresses* the need for transitional activities to be undertaken under national ownership, and requests the United Nations development system to contribute in this regard to the development of national capacities at all levels to manage the transition process;

68. *Recognizes* that the United Nations development system has a vital role to play in situations of transition from relief to development;

69. *Requests* the United Nations development system, upon the request of affected countries, to respond to countries affected by disasters or conflicts in transition from relief to development in support of national priorities, while recognizing the differences in these situations;

70. *Also requests* the United Nations development system, in responding to countries in transition from relief to development, to tailor support to country-specific needs and to develop approaches in order to effectively provide support for early recovery, in accordance with national strategies, policies and requirements, while assisting in restoring or developing national capacity;

71. *Requests* the organizations of the United Nations development system to strengthen interdepartmental and inter-agency coordination in order to ensure an integrated, coherent and coordinated approach to assistance at the country level,

which takes account of the complexity of challenges that countries in those circumstances face and the country-specific character of those challenges;

72. *Also requests* the organizations of the United Nations development system to support, at the request of national Governments of countries in transition from relief to development, national capacity-building efforts and to report on their initiatives and activities in annual reporting to their respective governing bodies;

73. *Encourages* the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions to continue their efforts to improve coordination with regard to the transition from relief to development, including, where relevant, the development of joint responses for post-disaster and post-conflict need assessments, programme planning, implementation and monitoring, including funding mechanisms, to deliver more effective support and to lower transaction costs for countries in the transition from relief to development;

74. *Requests* the United Nations development system to take measures, in line with guidance provided by Member States, that further strengthen the coherence, relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of operational activities of the United Nations development system in countries in transition from relief to development;

75. *Notes*, in this regard, the need for the United Nations development system to consider ways to improve the effectiveness of its resource mobilization for transition from relief to development;

76. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the important role that the effective and responsive resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator systems can play in situations of transition from relief to development;

77. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations entities to further increase efforts, where appropriate, with due consideration of national data, to harmonize data collection and information management during the transition phase from relief to development and to make that information available to the Member State concerned;

78. *Requests* the United Nations development system to build its support capacity for early recovery in situations from relief to development, while noting the role that the United Nations Development Programme can play in this regard;

79. *Recognizes* that the exchange of expertise and experiences among countries of the South enables countries in situations of transition from relief to development to benefit from the experiences of other developing countries, and encourages the further development of South-South cooperation modalities, including triangular cooperation modalities, in this regard, while recognizing the need to adapt experiences to national contexts;

80. *Invites* the United Nations development system to take into account in its assistance to countries emerging from conflict that are on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission, the advisory role that the Commission can play in relation to peacebuilding and recovery strategies, with a view to helping countries lay the foundation for their economic and social recovery and development and ensuring national ownership of the peacebuilding process;

81. *Urges* United Nations agencies and the donor community, in coordination with the national authorities, to begin planning the transition to development and taking measures supportive of that transition, such as institutional and capacity-building measures, from the beginning of the relief phase;

82. *Urges* all donors and countries in a position to do so to consider more coordinated and flexible approaches to the funding of operational activities for development in situations of transition from relief to development, making use of multiple resource mobilization instruments, and stresses that contributions to humanitarian assistance should not be provided at the expense of development assistance and that sufficient resources for humanitarian assistance should be made available by the international community;

83. *Stresses* the need for adequate, predictable and timely funding of operational activities for development in countries in situations from relief to development, and calls upon donors and countries in a position to do so to provide timely, predictable and sustained financial contributions for the operational activities of the United Nations system for early recovery and long-term development for countries in transition from relief to development;

84. *Requests* the resident coordinator system and the United Nations country teams, at the request of national Governments and in coordination with them, to promote the inclusion of prevention strategies in national development plans, bearing in mind the importance of national ownership and capacity-building at all levels;

85. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to integrate disaster risk reduction into their respective activities, including measures aimed at restoring and improving services and infrastructure as part of the early recovery and transition phase;

IV

Improved functioning of the United Nations development system

A. Coherence, effectiveness and relevance

86. *Underscores* that the ownership, leadership and full participation of national authorities in the preparation and development of all planning and programming documents of the United Nations development system, including the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, are key to guaranteeing that they respond to the national development plans and strategies, and requests the United Nations development system to use the Framework and its results matrix, where applicable and with the agreement of the programme country, as the common programming tool for country-level contributions of the funds and programmes towards the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, to be fully endorsed and countersigned by the national authorities;

87. *Recalls* the potential of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and its results matrix as the collective, coherent and integrated programming and monitoring framework for the operations of the United Nations development system at the country level, bringing increased opportunities for joint initiatives, including joint programming, and urges the United Nations development system to fully utilize such opportunities in the interest of enhancing aid efficiency and aid effectiveness;

88. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, that planning and programming frameworks of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, need to be fully aligned with national development planning cycles, whenever possible, and that they should make use of and strengthen national capacities and mechanisms;

89. *Underscores* the fact that the resident coordinator system is owned by the United Nations development system as a whole, and that its functioning should be participatory, collegial and accountable;

90. *Recognizes* the central role of resident coordinators in making possible the coordination of United Nations operational activities for development at the country level to improve the effectiveness of their response to the national development priorities of programme countries, including through appropriate resources and accountability;

91. *Reaffirms* that the resident coordinator system, within the framework of national ownership, has a key role to play in the effective and efficient functioning of the United Nations system at the country level, including in the formulation of the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and is a key instrument for the efficient and effective coordination of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

92. *Urges* the United Nations development system to provide further financial, technical and organizational support for the resident coordinator system, and requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the members of the United Nations Development Group, to ensure that resident coordinators have the necessary resources to fulfil their role effectively;

93. *Notes* that coordination activities, while beneficial, represent transaction costs that are borne by both programme countries and the organizations of the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to report on an annual basis to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session on the functioning of the resident coordinator system, including costs and benefits;

94. *Encourages* efforts by the United Nations development system to improve the selection and training process of resident coordinators, and requests the Secretary-General to report on this subject to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2009;

95. *Also encourages* the use of advanced information and communications technologies, including knowledge management, that will facilitate the contribution of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including non-resident agencies, to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and other planning frameworks and mechanisms, as well as overall information-sharing;

96. *Underscores* that the resident coordinator, supported by the United Nations country team, should report to national authorities on progress made against results agreed in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

97. *Also underscores* the importance of ensuring that the strategic plans of funds and programmes are consistent with and guided by the comprehensive policy review, which establishes the main intergovernmentally agreed parameters of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

98. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to report to the General Assembly on the implications of aligning the strategic planning cycles of the United Nations funds and programmes with the comprehensive policy review and to provide recommendations on changing the comprehensive policy review from a three-year to a four-year cycle, in order for the Assembly to make a well-informed decision during its sixty-third session;

99. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations development system in the use of the common country assessment and the United Nations Development

Assistance Framework and the alignment of the Framework cycle with national planning processes and frameworks in an increasing number of countries, and notes the efforts made to improve coherence, coordination and harmonization in the United Nations development system, including at the country level;

100. *Invites* the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions to explore further ways to enhance cooperation, collaboration and coordination, including through the greater harmonization of strategic frameworks, instruments, modalities and partnership arrangements, in full accordance with the priorities of the recipient Governments, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of ensuring, under the leadership of national authorities, greater consistency between the strategic frameworks developed by the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and the Bretton Woods institutions, while maintaining the institutional integrity and organizational mandates of each organization and the national poverty reduction strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist;

101. *Emphasizes* that programme countries should have access to and benefit from the full range of mandates and resources of the United Nations development system, whereby the national Governments should determine which resident and non-resident United Nations organizations will best respond to specific needs and priorities of the individual country, including in the case of non-resident agencies, through hosting arrangements with resident organizations, as appropriate;

102. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to improve the transparency and competitiveness of the recruitment processes for senior high-level posts in the United Nations development system in order to find the best candidates both inside and outside the United Nations system, and in this regard calls upon the chief executives of the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes to fully cooperate with the Secretary-General, through the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, in harmonizing recruitment processes for senior officials by 2009, making the selection criteria transparent and ensuring that, for candidates with equivalent competencies, gender and geographical balance are duly taken into account;

103. *Encourages* that the United Nations development system be invited to participate, ex officio, in current and new aid modalities and coordination mechanisms, at the request of the programme country, and invites the United Nations development system to enhance its participation in this regard;

104. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in the exercise of responsibilities for the management of the resident coordinator system, which continues to be firmly anchored in the United Nations Development Programme:

(*a*) To establish appropriate mechanisms to ensure that the cost of the resident coordinator system does not reduce resources that are destined for development programmes in programme countries;

(*b*) To ensure, where possible, that cost savings, as a result of joint efforts and coordination, will accrue to development programmes;

105. *Recalls* the mandate of the United Nations Development Programme, within the existing programming arrangement, to appoint country directors to run its core activities, including fund-raising, so as to assure that resident coordinators are fully available for their tasks;

B. Regional dimensions

106. *Recognizes* the contribution of interregional, regional and subregional cooperation to addressing development challenges related to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

107. *Encourages*, in this regard, the United Nations development system to strengthen collaboration with regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and regional banks, as appropriate and consistent with their respective mandates;

108. *Requests* the United Nations regional commissions to further develop their analytical capacities to support country-level development initiatives at the request of the programme countries, and to support measures for more intensive inter-agency collaboration at the regional and subregional levels;

109. *Recognizes*, in regard to the functioning of the United Nations development system, the importance of aligning regional technical support structures and the regional bureaux to provide support to the United Nations country teams, including enhanced technical, programme and administrative support, increasing their collaboration at the regional level, including through co-location, where appropriate and consistent with the needs of the programme countries of the regions concerned, and identifying appropriate mechanisms at the subregional level, where appropriate and in close consultation with the programme countries concerned, to respond to specific challenges that cannot be adequately responded to at the regional hubs;

110. *Requests* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations development system at the regional level and the regional commissions to further strengthen cooperation and coordination among each other at the regional level and with their respective headquarters, inter alia, through closer cooperation within the resident coordinator system and in close consultation with Governments of the countries concerned and, where appropriate, to include the funds, programmes and specialized agencies that are not represented at the regional level;

111. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, its regional commissions and other regional and subregional entities, as appropriate and consistent with their mandates, to intensify their cooperation and to adopt more collaborative approaches to support country-level development initiatives at the request of recipient countries, in particular through closer collaboration within the resident coordinator system and by improving mechanisms for access to the technical capacities of the United Nations system at the regional and subregional levels;

C. Transaction costs and efficiency

112. *Requests* the executive boards and governing bodies of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to assess the progress achieved, including costs and benefits, in the area of simplification and harmonization of the United Nations development system at the global, regional and country levels, analyse the potential impacts on development programming and report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session on an annual basis;

113. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to continue to harmonize and simplify their rules and procedures, wherever this can lead to a significant reduction in the administrative and procedural burden on the organizations and national partners, bearing in mind the special circumstances of programme countries, and to enhance the efficiency, accountability and transparency of the United Nations development system;

114. *Also calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to ensure, to the extent possible, that savings resulting from reductions in transaction and overhead costs accrue to development programmes in programme countries;

115. *Recognizes* that the growth of non-core/supplementary/extrabudgetary funding and of the number of associated projects increases transaction costs and is an important factor that can hinder efforts to maximize efficiency of the United Nations development system;

116. *Requests* the executive boards of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to review the issue of cost recovery to ensure that core resources do not subsidize the projects undertaken through non-core/supplementary/ extrabudgetary funding;

117. *Requests* the United Nations development system to further standardize and harmonize the concepts, practices and cost classifications related to transaction cost and cost recovery, while maintaining the principle of full cost recovery in the administration of all non-core/supplementary/extrabudgetary contributions, including in joint programmes;

118. *Encourages* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as appropriate and in consultation with programme countries, to further lower transaction costs, to conduct missions, analytical work and evaluations at the country level jointly, to provide their capacity development support through coordinated programmes consistent with the requests of programme countries and national priorities and to promote joint training and sharing of lessons learned;

119. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to make increased use of national public and private systems for support services, including for procurement, security, information technology, telecommunications, travel and banking, as well as, when appropriate, for planning, reporting and evaluation, and also encourages the United Nations development system to avoid and significantly reduce the number of its parallel project implementation units in programme countries as a means of strengthening national capacities and reducing transaction costs;

120. *Encourages* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to step up their efforts, in consultation with national Governments of programme countries and in accordance with their development needs and priorities, to rationalize their country presence through common premises, co-location and, where appropriate, to implement the joint office model and expand common shared support services and business units, in order to reduce United Nations overhead and transaction costs for national Governments;

121. *Encourages* the continuing development of harmonized approaches such as the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, the standardization of audit definitions and ratings and the harmonized approach to cash transfers, calls upon the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to further harmonize and simplify their business practices, and recognizes the

importance of harmonizing human resources management, enterprise resource planning systems, finance, administration, procurement, security, information technology, telecommunications, travel and banking, and of making use of information and communications technologies to the fullest extent possible in order to reduce travel costs and other recurring communications costs;

122. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session in 2008, a programme of work for the full implementation of the above-mentioned actions, to be completed before the end of 2010, including a specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound results framework, benchmarks, responsibilities and provisions to phase out redundant rules and procedures, as well as a timetable to monitor the progress made towards meeting these targets;

D. Country-level capacity of the United Nations development system

123. *Reiterates* the need for the range and level of skills and expertise assembled by the United Nations system at the country level to be commensurate with that needed to deliver on the priorities specified in each country's United Nations Development Assistance Framework or country programme documents, in line with the national development strategies and plans, including poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist, and to correspond to the technical backstopping and capacity-building needs and requirements of developing countries;

124. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations development system to take all necessary measures in their human resources policies to ensure that United Nations staff involved in operational activities at the country level have the skills and expertise required for effective management, policy advisory and other capacity development work, in line with national development priorities and plans;

125. *Stresses* the need for the United Nations development system to adopt comprehensive policies and strategies for human resources and workforce planning and development, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report identifying human resources challenges within the development system at the country level and formulating recommendations for improvements;

126. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to continue and intensify efforts related to inter-agency staff mobility, re-profiling and redeployment of staff, as well as training and skills upgrading, notably at the United Nations System Staff College at Turin, Italy;

127. *Underscores* the importance of the use of national professional staff and national consultants, wherever feasible and to the advantage of the programme countries;

128. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to further promote, develop and support knowledge management systems, so that programme countries can avail themselves of knowledge and expertise that is not readily accessible at the country level, including resources readily available at the regional level and from non-resident agencies;

E. Evaluation of operational activities for development

129. *Emphasizes* that programme countries should have greater ownership and leadership in the evaluation of all forms of assistance, including that provided by the United Nations development system, and requests the United Nations development

system to pursue and intensify its efforts to strengthen evaluation capacities in programme countries;

130. *Notes* the endorsement in 2005 of the norms and standards for evaluation by the United Nations system through the United Nations Evaluation Group, constituting a contribution to strengthening evaluation as a United Nations system function;

131. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assess the effectiveness of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including, in particular, by assessing the effective use of all capacities available to provide a comprehensive and flexible response to the demand of developing countries for development support, and to report on the results of this assessment in the context of the next comprehensive policy review;

132. *Recognizes* the need to optimize the linking of evaluation to performance in the achievement of development goals, and encourages the United Nations development system to strengthen its evaluation activities, with particular focus on development results, including through the effective use of the results matrix of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, the systematic use of monitoring and evaluation approaches at the system-wide level and the promotion of collaborative approaches to evaluation, including joint evaluations;

133. *Emphasizes* the importance of the independence and impartiality of the evaluation function within the United Nations system;

134. *Reaffirms* that the effectiveness of operational activities should be assessed by their impact on the poverty eradication efforts, economic growth and sustainable development of programme countries;

135. *Recalls* the need for country-level evaluations of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework at the end of the programming cycle, based on the results matrix of the Framework, with the full participation and leadership of the recipient Government;

136. *Requests* the United Nations development system to further develop guidance and oversight mechanisms for the funding, planning and implementation of the monitoring and evaluation of United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, with a view to assessing their contribution to national development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

137. *Encourages* all United Nations organizations involved in operational activities for development that have not already done so to adopt, as appropriate, monitoring and evaluation policies that are in line with system-wide norms and standards and to make the necessary financial and institutional arrangements for the creation and/or strengthening of independent, credible and useful evaluation functions within each organization;

138. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to further strengthen evaluation, with the agreement of the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and agencies, and in this regard encourages the United Nations development system to continue efforts to strengthen evaluation across the system and to promote a culture of evaluation;

139. *Notes* the voluntary efforts to improve coherence, coordination and harmonization in the United Nations development system, including at the request of some "programme country pilot"; encourages the Secretary-General to support

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 59 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/62/424/Add.3)*]

62/209. South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005 and other resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Recalling further its resolution 59/250 of 22 December 2004, in which it, inter alia, urged organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to mainstream, in their programmes and through their country-level activities and country offices, modalities to support South-South cooperation,

Recalling its resolution 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, welcoming the support expressed for the convening of a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, and recognizing the increased role undertaken by the United Nations to support activities in economic cooperation among developing countries,

Taking note of the initiatives contained in the Havana Programme of Action adopted by the first South Summit, [3] the Marrakesh Framework for the Implementation of South-South Cooperation[4] and the Doha Plan of Action,[5]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation on its fifteenth session and the decisions taken at that session;[6]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] A/55/74, annex II.

[4] A/58/683, annex II.

[5] A/60/111, annex II.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/62/39).

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[7]

3. *Stresses* that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

4. *Also stresses* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

5. *Highlights* the fact that, in spite of progress achieved in this area, further efforts are required to better understand the approaches and potential of South-South cooperation to enhance development effectiveness, including through national capacity development;

6. *Encourages* the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of developing countries, inter alia, through triangular cooperation;

7. *Encourages* the initiatives and arrangements, including public-private mechanisms, undertaken in the efforts to enhance cooperation between developing countries, including, inter alia, in the areas of the fight against poverty and hunger, access to information and communications technologies, science and technology, environment, culture, health, education and human development;

8. *Invites* the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation and the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund, as appropriate, to consider measures to strengthen further the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation within the United Nations Development Programme as a separate entity and a focal point for South-South cooperation in the United Nations system, so as to enable it to carry out its full responsibilities, in particular through the mobilization of resources for the advancement of South-South cooperation, including through triangular cooperation;

9. *Recognizes* the need to further assess the progress made by the United Nations development system in its support to South-South cooperation, particularly through the provision of resources for South-South cooperation, and mobilization of technical and financial resources for triangular cooperation, as well as to mainstream South-South cooperation in the work of the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies in the field;

10. *Also recognizes* the need to mobilize additional resources for enhancing South-South cooperation, and in this context invites the donor community, including Member States, to contribute generously to the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation and the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, in accordance with its resolution 57/263 of 20 December 2002;

11. *Reaffirms* that existing regular resources will continue to fund the activities of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, and encourages the Special Unit to explore and undertake intensive, innovative and additional resource mobilization initiatives to attract more resources, both financial and in kind, to

[7] A/62/295.

supplement regular resources and other funds for activities involving South-South cooperation;

12. *Encourages* all Member States to deepen, intensify and enhance South-South cooperation, including through triangular cooperation, in all its aspects, as a continuing and vital process undertaken to help meet the challenges facing the countries of the South, especially least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in post-conflict and crisis situations;

13. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen and further invigorate South-South cooperation, in that regard decides to convene a High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[1] no later than the first half of 2009, and requests that the President of the General Assembly entrust the President of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation with undertaking the necessary consultations with Member States in order to prepare for the proposed conference, with a view to the Assembly's taking a decision, during its sixty-second session, on the nature, date, objectives and modalities of the conference, making use of the existing coordination mechanisms of the United Nations system;

14. *Welcomes* the generous offer of the Government of Argentina to host the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "South-South cooperation for development", and requests the Secretary-General to submit at that session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution.

78th plenary meeting
19 December 2007

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 60

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/62/425)*]

62/210. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999, 55/208 of 20 December 2000, 56/208 of 21 December 2001, 57/268 of 20 December 2002, 58/223 of 23 December 2003, 59/252 of 22 December 2004 and 60/213 of 22 December 2005 and its decision 61/542 of 20 December 2006,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Acknowledging the work of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the functioning of the Institute,

Expressing its deep gratitude for the dedication and commitment, as well as the accomplishments, of Mr. Marcel Boisard, Assistant Secretary-General and, for fifteen years, Executive Director of the Institute,

Noting the continued progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the strengthened cooperation with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting that the activities of the Institute have thus far been funded entirely from voluntary contributions,

Noting also that, despite the growing need for training and capacity development, voluntary contributions remain at a low level, putting at risk the Institute's core training courses that it delivers to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna,

Reiterating that training and capacity-development activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of

[1] A/62/377.

international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Notes* the strategic reforms introduced by the new Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, and endorsed by its Board of Trustees, for the Institute to be a centre of excellence;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated United Nations system-wide approach to research and training, based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of work among the relevant institutions and bodies;

3. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the Institute, in view of the growing importance of training and capacity development within the United Nations and the training requirements of States and local authorities, and the relevance of capacity development-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training and capacity-development programmes, and in this context underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of those partnerships, in particular at the country level;

5. *Requests* the Board of Trustees to continue to ensure fair and equitable geographic distribution and transparency in the preparation of the programmes and in the employment of experts, and in this regard stresses that the courses of the Institute should focus primarily on development issues and the management of international affairs;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of using objective, impartial and scientific course materials, compatible with the objectives and priorities of the United Nations, and expects a better screening of the course materials utilized by the Institute;

7. *Urges* the Board of Trustees to complete expeditiously the implementation of the remaining recommendation made by the Board of Auditors in respect of the biennium 2002–2003, while appreciating the work done thus far;[2]

8. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the strategic reforms;

9. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees to continue its efforts to resolve the financial situation of the Institute, in particular with a view to broadening its donor base, and seeking more predictable and adequate support from Member States for its activities, in particular its core training activities;

10. *Decides* to streamline the reporting arrangements of the Institute through:

(*a*) Consolidation of the reports of the Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the Institute;

[2] See A/60/113, annex, sect. IV.G.

(*b*) Submission of the new consolidated report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council rather than to the General Assembly;

(*c*) Establishment of a biennial reporting cycle starting from 2009;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2008 a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including details on its financial implications, and the status of contributions to and the financial situation of the Institute.

78th plenary meeting
19 December 2007

United Nations A/RES/62/211

General Assembly

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11 March 2008

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 61

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/62/426)*]

62/211. Towards global partnerships

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/215 of 21 December 2000, 56/76 of 11 December 2001, 58/129 of 19 December 2003 and 60/215 of 22 December 2005,

Reaffirming the vital role of the United Nations, including the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in the promotion of partnerships in the context of globalization,

Underlining the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations, and the central role and responsibility of Governments in national and international policymaking,

Reaffirming its resolve to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to sustainable economic growth, poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability,

Taking note of the increasing number of public-private partnerships worldwide,

Recalling the objectives formulated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] notably the Millennium Development Goals, and the reaffirmation they have received in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] particularly in regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty,

Recalling also that the 2005 World Summit encouraged the pursuit of responsible business practices,

Underlining the fact that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, shall serve the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, can make concrete contributions to the realization of the internationally agreed development goals,

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews, in particular in the area of development and the eradication of poverty, and shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains the integrity, impartiality and independence of the Organization,

Underlining also the importance of the contribution of the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society to the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

Welcoming, in this regard, the participation of civil society and private-sector entities in the multi-stakeholder consultations on financing for development, whose findings were presented at the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development held in New York on 23 and 24 October 2007,

Recognizing the need, where appropriate, to enhance the capacity of Member States to participate effectively in partnerships, at all levels, in accordance with national priorities and national legislation, and encouraging international support for such efforts in developing countries,

Emphasizing that all relevant partners, including the private sector, can contribute in several ways to addressing the obstacles confronted by developing countries in mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustainable development and to the realization of the development goals of the United Nations through, inter alia, financial resources, access to technology, management expertise and support for programmes, including through the reduced pricing of drugs, where appropriate, for the prevention, care and treatment of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases,

Welcoming the efforts and encouraging further efforts by all relevant partners, including the private sector, to engage as reliable and consistent partners in the development process and to take into account not only the economic and financial, but also the developmental, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of their undertakings and, in general, to accept and to implement corporate social and environmental responsibility, that is, bringing such values and responsibilities to bear on their conduct and policy premised on profit incentives, in conformity with national laws and regulations,

Welcoming also the continuous efforts by the Commission on Sustainable Development through its secretariat to promote partnerships for sustainable development, inter alia, through the implementation and expansion of an interactive online database as a platform to provide access to information on partnerships and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices and through the regular holding of partnership fairs at the sessions of the Commission,

Taking note with appreciation of the progress achieved in the work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces, commissions and initiatives, such as the Global Compact, launched by the Secretary-General, the Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development[3] and the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, and welcoming the establishment of a multitude of partnerships at the field level, entered into by various United Nations agencies, non-public partners and Member States, such as the United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development,

[3] A/62/89-E/2007/76, annex.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector;[4]

2. *Stresses* that partnerships are voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task and, as mutually agreed, to share risks and responsibilities, resources and benefits;

3. *Also stresses* the importance of the contribution of voluntary partnerships to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, while reiterating that they are a complement to, but not intended to substitute for, the commitment made by Governments with a view to achieving these goals;

4. *Further stresses* that partnerships should be consistent with national laws and national development strategies and plans, as well as the priorities of countries where their implementation takes place, bearing in mind the relevant guidance provided by Governments;

5. *Recalls* that the 2005 World Summit welcomed the positive contributions of the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the promotion and implementation of development and human rights programmes, and also recalls that the 2005 World Summit resolved to enhance the contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in the promotion of the global partnership for development, and encouraged public-private partnerships in the following areas: the generation of new investments and employment, financing for development, health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;

6. *Recognizes* the role that public-private partnerships can play in efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, also recognizes the need to ensure that their activities conform fully with the principle of national ownership of development strategies, and further recognizes the need for effective accountability and transparency in their implementation;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to promote multi-stakeholder approaches in addressing the challenges of development in the context of globalization;

8. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to develop, for those partnerships in which it participates, a common and systemic approach, which places greater emphasis on impact, transparency, accountability and sustainability, without imposing undue rigidity in partnership agreements, and with due consideration being given to the following partnership principles: common purpose, transparency, bestowing no unfair advantages upon any partner of the United Nations, mutual benefit and mutual respect, accountability, respect for the modalities of the United Nations, striving for balanced representation of relevant partners from developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition, sectoral and geographic balance, and not compromising the independence and neutrality of the United Nations;

[4] A/62/341.

9. *Also encourages* the activities of the United Nations Global Compact as an innovative public-private partnership to advance United Nations values and responsible business practices within the United Nations system and among the global business community, including through an increased number of local networks, acknowledges the special management, support, funding structure and position of the Global Compact within the United Nations system, which are specifically designed to reflect the diversity of its stakeholders, notes the activities of the Global Compact Office in this regard, and encourages it to continue its efforts, in particular in continuing to share relevant lessons learned and positive experiences from partnerships;

10. *Takes note with interest* of the second United Nations Global Compact Leaders Summit, held at the United Nations Office at Geneva on 5 and 6 July 2007, and of the partnerships launched;

11. *Acknowledges* the ongoing work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces and commissions, within their respective mandates, and in this regard encourages the provision of adequate training, as appropriate;

12. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations organizations and agencies to share relevant lessons learned and positive experiences from partnerships, including with the business community, as a contribution to the development of more effective United Nations partnerships;

13. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance partnership management through the promotion of adequate training at all concerned levels, institutional capacity in country offices, strategic focus and local ownership, the sharing of best practices, the improvement of partner selection processes and the streamlining of United Nations guidelines for partnerships between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, and requests that such activities be continued, as appropriate;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to promote, within existing resources, impact-assessment mechanisms of partnerships, taking into account best tools available, in order to enable effective management, ensure accountability and facilitate effective learning from both successes and failures;

15. *Welcomes* innovative approaches to use partnerships as a means to better implement goals and programmes, in particular in support of the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty, and encourages relevant United Nations bodies and agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to further explore such possibilities, bearing in mind their different mandates, modes of operation and objectives, as well as the particular roles of the non-public partners involved;

16. *Recommends*, in this context, that partnerships should also foster the elimination of all forms of discrimination, including on gender grounds, in respect of employment and occupation;

17. *Reiterates its call upon*:

(*a*) All bodies within the United Nations system that engage in partnerships to ensure the integrity and independence of the Organization and to include information on partnerships in their regular reporting, as appropriate, on their websites and through other means;

(*b*) Partners to provide to and exchange relevant information with Governments, other stakeholders and the relevant United Nations agencies and

bodies and other international organizations with which they engage, in an appropriate way, including through reports, with particular attention to the importance of sharing among partnerships information on their practical experience;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

78th plenary meeting
19 December 2007

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 3 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/62/596)*]

62/212. Report of the Credentials Committee

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee [1] and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

79th plenary meeting
21 December 2007

[1] A/62/596.

General Assembly

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7 March 2008

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 50

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/62/L.35/Rev.1)*]

62/213. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/48 of 29 November 2000 and 57/12 of 14 November 2002 on the role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order,

Acknowledging that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being and that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming that development is a central goal by itself and that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of United Nations activities,

Recognizing that the well-being of people and the full development of their potential is pivotal to sustainable development, and convinced of the urgency of international cooperation towards that end,

Deeply concerned about the disparities between rich and poor, both within and among countries, and about the adverse implications of these disparities for the promotion of human development throughout the world,

Encouraged by reductions in poverty in some countries in the recent past, and determined to reinforce and extend this trend to benefit people worldwide,

Recognizing the action already under way by all Member States, the United Nations system and other international, regional and national forums and organizations and the progress made to implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing also that the achievement of many of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in many countries is currently off track, and emphasizing that vigorous implementation of all development commitments will be needed without delay if the Goals are to be achieved,

1. *Stresses* the need for a broad-based consensus for action within a comprehensive and holistic framework towards the achievement of the goals of development and poverty eradication involving all actors, namely Governments, the United Nations system and other international organizations and relevant actors of civil society, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations;

2. *Notes with interest* the proposal regarding a new global human order;

3. *Recognizes* that the increased pace of globalization and growing interdependence have heightened the importance of international cooperation and multilateralism in meeting global challenges and solving common problems, including those that have arisen from the uneven impact of globalization on development and human well-being;

4. *Underlines* the need to foster national and international conditions conducive to the promotion of human well-being and the full realization of human potential, and in this regard urges countries to develop and adopt national strategies to achieve their national development priorities as well as the internationally agreed goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Reaffirms* the commitment to sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law, to mobilizing domestic resources, attracting international flows, assuring long-term investment in human capital and infrastructure, promoting international trade as an engine for economic growth and development and increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development, sustainable debt financing and external debt relief and to enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems;

6. *Recognizes* that inequality within and among countries is a concern for all countries regardless of their level of development and that it represents a growing challenge with multiple implications for the realization of economic and social potential and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report an assessment of the implications of inequality for development;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order".

79th plenary meeting
21 December 2007

General Assembly

Distr.: General
7 March 2008

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 116

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/62/595)*]

62/214. United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable for a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Deeply concerned by and strongly condemning all acts of sexual exploitation and abuse committed by United Nations staff and related personnel,

Reiterating its support to the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse, and recalling all relevant United Nations standards of conduct and regulations, including the Secretary-General's bulletin on the special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse,[1]

Also reiterating its support for the implementation of a comprehensive approach throughout the United Nations system to assistance to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel, which should be provided in an appropriate and reliable manner,

Recalling the letter dated 24 March 2005 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly, which contains the report of the special adviser entitled "A comprehensive strategy to eliminate future sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations",[2]

Recalling also that, in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[3] the Secretary-General was requested to submit proposals to the General Assembly leading to a comprehensive approach to victims' assistance,

[1] ST/SGB/2003/13.
[2] A/59/710.
[3] See resolution 60/1, para. 165.

Recalling further its resolutions 59/281 of 29 March 2005, 59/300 of 22 June 2005, 60/263 of 6 June 2006 and 61/291 of 24 July 2007,

Taking note with appreciation of the letter dated 25 May 2006 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly,[4] which contains a draft United Nations policy statement and a draft United Nations comprehensive strategy on assistance and support to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel,

Mindful of the importance of assisting victims of sexual exploitation and abuse committed by United Nations staff and related personnel,

1. *Adopts* the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel ("the Strategy"), annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and invites specialized agencies, to engage in an active and coordinated manner in the implementation of the Strategy, with the support of civil society, as appropriate, working closely with Member States;

3. *Decides* to examine, in two years, progress made in the implementation of the Strategy under the agenda item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit";

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the Strategy and to submit a detailed report in this regard to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, including lessons learned, best practices and recommendations.

79th plenary meeting
21 December 2007

Annex

United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel

Purpose

1. The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel receive appropriate assistance and support in a timely manner. It is imperative that the Organization respond quickly and effectively when sexual exploitation and abuse occur.

2. The Strategy also enables the United Nations system to facilitate, coordinate and provide, as appropriate, assistance and support to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel.

3. The Strategy shall in no way diminish or replace the individual responsibility for acts of sexual exploitation and abuse, which rests with the perpetrators. The Strategy is not intended as means for compensation.

[4] A/60/877.

Scope of application

4. The Strategy should be implemented to assist and support complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel in a manner appropriate to the relevant circumstances of each location with due respect to host country legislation.

Definitions

5. The following definitions are provided here to clarify the terms used in the Strategy:

(*a*) Sexual abuse: The actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions;

(*b*) Sexual exploitation: The actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power or trust for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another;

(*c*) Complainants: Persons who allege, in accordance with established procedures, that they have been, or are alleged to have been, sexually exploited or abused by United Nations staff or related personnel, but whose claim has not yet been established through a United Nations administrative process or Member States' processes, as appropriate;

(*d*) Victims: Persons whose claims that they have been sexually exploited or abused by United Nations staff or related personnel have been established through a United Nations administrative process or Member States' processes, as appropriate;

(*e*) Children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse: Children who are found by a competent national authority to have been born as a result of acts of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff or related personnel;

(*f*) United Nations staff and related personnel: United Nations staff members, consultants, individual contractors, United Nations Volunteers, experts on mission and contingent members;

(*g*) Implementing partners: Entities or organizations that operate at country level, in accordance with established host country and United Nations procedures, to facilitate and provide the services outlined in the Strategy. Victim Support Facilitators are those selected implementing partners requested by the United Nations to facilitate the delivery of assistance and support to complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Assistance and support

6. Complainants should receive basic assistance and support in accordance with their individual needs directly arising from the alleged sexual exploitation and abuse. This assistance and support will comprise medical care, legal services, support to deal with the psychological and social effects of the experience and immediate material care, such as food, clothing, emergency and safe shelter, as necessary.

7. Further to basic assistance, victims should receive additional assistance and support in accordance with their individual needs directly arising from sexual exploitation and abuse. This assistance and support will comprise medical care, legal services, support to deal with the psychological and social effects of the experience and immediate material care, as necessary.

8. Children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse should receive, in accordance with their individual needs, assistance and support addressing the medical, legal, psychological and social consequences directly arising from sexual exploitation and abuse, in the best interests of the child. The United Nations should also work with Member States to facilitate, within their competence, the pursuit of claims related to paternity and child support.

Provision of assistance and support

9. All assistance and support should be provided in a manner that does not increase the trauma suffered by the complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse, cause further stigmatization or exclude or discriminate against other victims of sexual exploitation and abuse.

10. Assistance and support should be provided through existing services, programmes and their networks. However, where necessary, the United Nations should consider supporting the development of new services, while not developing duplicative structures.

11. A United Nations focal point will be identified to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Strategy to ensure that the process of referring complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse is simple, safe and respects the need for confidentiality, dignity and non-discrimination.

12. The United Nations should identify implementing partners to provide the services outlined in the present Strategy, and to act as Victim Support Facilitators, as necessary.

13. The duration of the provision of assistance and support should be set in accordance with individual needs directly arising from sexual exploitation and abuse.

14. The provision of any assistance and support by the United Nations in every case of complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse is not an acknowledgement of the validity of the claims or an indication of acceptance of responsibility by the alleged perpetrator.